



Washington State Health Care Authority

Health Record Bank (HRB) Grant Solicitation

Answers to Questions

Received June 1, 2008 through June 25, 2008

1. Question:

- a. Are there any expectations for how many members should be on the consumer and provider advisory groups?
- b. Is an outline available for what the project "Final Report" should cover?
- c. Are there any guidelines on what a meaningful statistical baseline is for the Consumer adoption measures?
- d. Are there any guidelines for division of a budget between technology and general staff time?
- e. Also...the conference notes you supplied indicate that there has been interest from the vendor community. Can you supply us with a list of those vendors that have expressed interest?

Answer:

- a. HCA expects that a reasonable level of participation and balance can be achieved by pilot communities by providing pilot applicants latitude and flexibility in determining how to achieve this in their community.
- b. There is no outline at this time and will be part of a discussion with grant awardees.
- c. The baseline measures for consumer adoption would normally be zero except in a situation where some consumers in the target population are already accessing their personal health information online (under their control). If that is the case, the system(s) being used for this purpose should be able to provide baseline information on the current number of users and the amount of usage (with specific measures characterizing usage to be proposed by the applicant).
- d. Please see Section XI, number 6: "...Funding may be used to adapt, integrate, and customize existing technology to meet project requirements." HCA expects it is reasonable to assume that grant proposals will reflect funding requests tilted towards community development, patient engagement, etc versus technology.
- e. Communities that expressed interest were immediately sent vendor contact information. If vendors would like to post a 150 to 200 word summary description of their offering with contact information to post on the project site please submit that to Annette.burgin@hca.wa.gov for approval and posting.

2. Question:

I'm pretty sure you posted the PHR grant web-site somewhere, but I can't find the address anywhere. Would you kindly repeat that info for me?

On that site, you may have already listed a response to the following question, and if so, please just refer me to the site: We have some confusion regarding the limit of 10 letters of support. Does this 10 page limit include participants in the regional grant application, or does it just apply to non-participant letters of support?

Are we limited to 10 (pages) *including* affiliated parties, or limited to 10 non-affiliated parties with *unlimited* number of affiliated parties (of course the real limit won't be infinite... we will run out of steam somewhere!)?

Answer:

The PHR grant web site is: www.hca.wa.gov/hit and the direct link is: <http://www.hca.wa.gov/hit/documents/officialhrbgrant051408.pdf>. No more than ten letters of support may be submitted with an application." 10 total. So yes, 10 letters of support including affiliated parties.

3. Question:

Question for the application process: Will the individuals who contact this site be fed back to us for our pilot?

Answer:

I presume that when you refer to "this site" you mean www.AccessMyHealth.org . If so, HCA does not intend to directly "feed" potential HRB enrollees to pilot sites. HCA has committed to safeguarding and protecting consumer information from the surveys but will inform survey applicants of potential pilots in their area where they can receive more information and sign u

4. Question:

Is this 10% ceiling on indirect costs real? Was it announced before? 17.65% is standard for our agency, and that's a big difference.

Answer:

Yes, this is a real. It is not uncommon for grant sponsors to limit or cap indirect costs. This was discussed at the solicitation conference. The below excerpt is from the [Q & A \(page 4\)](#) off the web site – and reflects the summary from the day of the grant solicitation conference so it should not be a surprise (note the highlighted section):

XIV. Pre-Award Process:

a. Will HCA reduce budget if needed, to reduce awards?

Yes, this will be part of the negotiation phase with pilot sites if needed.

b. HCA will provide template for budget page.

- The budget page template is provided on HCA's web site. Please try to adapt your budget items into the categories provided and contact us with questions or issues you may have in using this.
- Use second budget page for matching contributions
- Indirect Costs Limited to 10% of Direct Costs
- Outside Funding by Itself Does Not Gain More Points

5. Question:

The IT costs and complications of the HIE are higher than anticipated, because the software we think best is not available on spec from the vendor. The free options were not technically ideal. How do you feel about \$80,000 in purchase/license for that component?

Answer:

We cannot comment on your cost of purchase. We know there will be line items such as those included and that we expect will be reflected in the proposals and we have included corresponding line items in the budget template provided to you. These are not unexpected or disallowed costs unless they comprised the majority of your requested budget.